

# Monthly Tip

## October Crime Prevention Month

October is National Crime Prevention month. What better time is there than now to check the physical security of your home and belongings? I find one of the best ways to do your own security check is to ask the following question. If your locked out of your home, can you still get in? Through an unlocked window in the back, or using an extra key hidden under a flowerpot or up on a ledge? Remember, if you can break in so can a burglar! A small investment of time and money can make your home more secure and can reduce your chances of being a victim of burglary, assault, or vandalism.



Kids love Halloween. It is a special day of excitement, fantasy and make-believe. It is also a day when everyone must take extra care to keep kids safe from harm. Before your kids venture out to trick or treat this year, make sure they are aware of the listed safety rules that need to be followed in order to reduce their chances of having problems.

- ✦ Never go out alone!
- ✦ Stay in well lighted areas in neighborhoods that you are familiar with!
- ✦ Stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings!
- ✦ Stand tall and walk confidently!
- ✦ Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable, leave right away!
- ✦ Carry your candy bag close to your body and keep a firm grip on it!
- ✦ Have a trusted adult check your candy before you eat it!
- ✦ HAVE FUN!

## Crime Prevention-Home Safety

- ✦ Make sure all doors to the outside are metal or solid.
- ✦ Make sure all doors to the outside have sturdy deadbolt locks- minimum of 1 1/2" bolt.
- ✦ Always keep doors locked! Even when you are at home.
- ✦ Secure sliding glass doors with bars, locks or a wooden dowels in the door track.
- ✦ Make sure your windows (especially at ground level) have locks- and use them!
- ✦ Make sure all porches and other possible entrances are well lighted.
- ✦ Trim any bushes to 30" or any trees up to 8' that hide doors or windows.
- ✦ Don't hide your house keys on the property! Give an extra to a trusted neighbor.
- ✦ Keep a written record of all furniture, jewelry, and electronic products.
- ✦ Always remember, SAFETY COMES BEFORE SECURITY!